



Psalm 77

7/19/20 PM

CONFLICT AND COMFORT FOR A TROUBLED SOUL

Introduction:

Superscription: "For the choir director according to Jeduthun. A Psalm of Asaph."

I. THE PSALMIST'S GLOOM: An Admission of Doubt (vs. 1-9)

A. His Depression (vs. 1-6)

¹My voice rises to God, and I will cry aloud; my voice rises to God, and He will hear me.

²In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; in the night my hand was stretched out without weariness

³When I remember God, then I am disturbed; when I sigh, then my spirit grows faint. Selah.

⁴You have held my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

⁵I have considered the days of old, the years of long ago.

⁶I will remember my song in the night; I will meditate with my heart, and my spirit ponders:

B. His Desperation (vs. 7-9)

⁷Will the Lord reject forever? And will He never be favorable again?

⁸Has His lovingkindness ceased forever? Has His promise come to an end forever?

⁹Has God forgotten to be gracious, or has He in anger withdrawn His compassion? Selah.

"God may at times withhold His favor and compassion in the process of disciplining or testing His people, but He will not withhold it forever, because it is His nature to be gracious and compassionate." – Alan Ross

II. THE PSALMIST'S GLADNESS: An Antidote for Doubt (vs. 10-20)

A. His Determination (vs. 10-15)

¹⁰Then I said, "It is my grief, that the right hand of the Most High has changed."

¹¹I shall remember the deeds of the LORD surely I will remember Your wonders of old.

¹²I will meditate on all Your work and muse on Your deeds.

¹³Your way, O God, is holy; what god is great like our God? (Psalm 76:1)

¹⁴You are the God who works wonders; You have made known Your strength among the peoples.

¹⁵You have by Your power redeemed Your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.

B. His Declaration (vs. 16-20)

¹⁶The waters saw You, O God; the waters saw You, they were in anguish; the deeps also trembled.

¹⁷The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth a sound; Your arrows flashed here and there.

¹⁸The sound of Your thunder was in the whirlwind; the lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.

¹⁹Your way was in the sea and Your paths in the mighty waters, and Your footprints may not be known.

²⁰You led Your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Conclusion:

- 1) In times of trouble we are encouraged to pray earnestly for comfort and relief from God.
- 2) The first step to deliverance is to remember what God has done in the past.
- 3) We are strengthened when we focus on the nature of God and His on-going work of redemption.